

TIP OF THE SWORD

001.14.2005

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey

Firefighters saving lives



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On the cover:

Cumali Avci radios his status to fellow team members during a training exercise. The Incirlik fire department requires its members to be fit and well trained to respond to emergencies on base and in the local area. See related story, Page 9. (Photo by Airman Renee Saylock)

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Our first 100 days and the Vision for Incirlik's future

By Col. "Tip" Stinnette
 39th Air Base Wing commander

"Vision is a process that allows you to think ahead to where you want to be and what you want to be doing, and to create workable plans to lead you there." "Exercising vision is developing an understanding of where you are and where you're heading ... both as an individual and as an organization." This article is the first of a three-part series on our Vision, Mission and Goals as a wing.

By now you should be familiar with all three components as they're on our Intranet Source Web page, linked to the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Incirlik Homepage, posted in every work center, displayed on the Commander's Access Channel and briefed to every newcomer. The purpose behind this series of articles is to spend a few more words explaining each of the components so we can all understand them and rattle them off as well as we recite our core values.

Our Vision, "To project the most respected and versatile mission support capability in USAFE," translates to being the best in USAFE. If we scroll to the top of this article, Vision is all about knowing where we are, then projecting where we want to be. In 2004 we were named 'best small base in USAFE' and we had an award-winning Anti-Terrorist and Force Protection office. Over the course of the last 12 months we have passed two major inspections and established a robust support structure for expeditionary projection.

Additionally, over the last 100 days we have stood up two groups, the 39th Medical

Group and the 425th Air Base Group at Izmir, and moved from 9th in USAFE to 3rd in the Combat Special Interest Programs which ensures we are ready to fight and postured to respond anywhere, while providing superior services to the men and women of Incirlik. Clearly, we know where we have been and where we are, and must now project where our Vision leads us next with a workable plan.

We want to be the best in USAFE! Our plan to get there is outlined in our Mission and Goals statement which is, "to provide full-spectrum, world-class forward operating base support to expeditionary forces while developing the professional talents of our men and women, and committing ourselves to the goals of focused mission support, fitness excellence and community services." As we commit ourselves to our mission and supporting goals, I am convinced we will achieve our vision.

Over the last 100 days I have been impressed by our sense of community. It is a strength of Incirlik equaled by few other installations. I've been impressed by our shared sense of Team and ability to work across organizational lanes toward a common objective. I've been impressed by our ability to take the next step in each endeavor and not rest on our laurels. I've been impressed with each of you and marvel at your can-do attitudes.

These traits are the qualities we must leverage in achieving our Vision to be the best in USAFE and I am so excited about going there with you! I look forward to the next 100 days and the coming year as we commit ourselves to realizing the Vision, Mission, Goals of Team Incirlik ... bring your courage, conviction and communication!



Project CHEER focuses on creating a positive atmosphere by offering unaccompanied Airmen. The Incirlik goal is to conduct 20 wing-wide events and 50 events between squadrons per month.

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Vision helps base achieve goals

EDITORIAL

By Chief Master Sgt. Ray Allen

39th Air Base Wing command chief master sergeant

The 39th Air Base Wing Vision is "To project the most respected and versatile mission support capability in U.S. Air Forces in Europe." A tall order for a wing of our size, but wholly attainable if we take it in small bites.

Think first about what our mission here at "The Lik" is: protection of assets, geographically separated unit support, air refueling support, cargo hub support and support for any other contingency that comes our way. In fact, support is already our middle name!

What does this mean to you? First and foremost it means being a ready, fit and technically capable warfighter physically, emotionally and spiritually. It means keeping the vision in sight and striving for it at all times. It also means giving the mission your all day to day. You are the expert in your technical area and you must give 110 percent every day and night. I could list every organization on base but room does not permit.

Here are a few examples:

The 39th Medical Group medics provide support through keeping our force healthy and mission ready.

The 728th Air Mobility Squadron permanent party and deployed personnel directly support the cargo hub through up-loading and off-loading cargo and aircraft maintenance. In addition they support the base populace with rotator and space available flights for our personnel.

The 39th Civil Engineer Squadron military and contract personnel support all of us by maintaining our facilities and infrastructure. I could continue with our other wing units but I think you get the idea.

The Combat and Special Interest Programs are a significant part of projecting our vision.

When visitors come to Incirlik they see we are ready for anything and take pride in our base and our abilities to support any mission at any time. This is because our Combat Proud program is a strong and vital part of our Incirlik culture.

Remember, without each of you, individually and as a team, we can't meet the vision, projecting the best mission support capability that USAFE has – the 39th Air Base Wing!

Action Line: Incirlik people express concern

Football Season

Q: Can you light a fire underneath the feet of those responsible for enforcing the rules at the running track? I was told to contact the fitness center which I did but they said they are not responsible for the track. Now that football season is upon us it seems to be complete chaos over there. I understand there are no other football fields and they are entitled to be there, but can't we get someone out there to ensure the safety of the runners?

A: Thanks for bringing this to our attention and yes we can "light a fire" to ensure the rules are complied with. It takes a community to enforce the standards ... I asked our experts to look into this one and their response below is spot-on. Let me know if this continues to be a problem and we'll turn up the heat even higher.

Just for clarification, the soccer field and track belong to the schools during the school day. After that, gym personnel are responsible for the area. Beginning immediately the gate leading to the track area will be locked and a key maintained at the gym and at the hospital (for emergency response).

The Intramural Sports Director has e-mailed all squadrons and reminded them to brief all personnel that the track area will be kept clear of fans, bikes, strollers and POVs. It's a beautiful area and must be maintained by everyone that uses it (both runners and fans). Let's see how this works and if abuses are observed, report it to the sports director at 6-6086.

Club Music

Q: When I go into the club I would like to listen to some other music besides R&B and rap. Every time that I have been into the club Friday and Saturday nights all I get to hear is R&B and rap, if you ask to play country or rock you are told that the majority does not want to listen to it so they will not play it.

I know for a fact that there are a lot of other people on this base who feel the same as I do because it has been brought up a lot and discussed.

I know the club competes with the alley and they look at it from a dollar and cents kind of thing but a suggestion is to have the Karaoke, country and rock music at the Low Places bar on both nights. Along with the R&B and rap in another area.

A variety of music is what the club needs, a safe place to go and enjoy yourself would

be better for the Incirlik community.

A: Thank you for your comments concerning the lounge entertainment at the Club Complex. Friday evenings, the enlisted lounge plays a variety of music geared toward the majority of requests and feedback the DJs receive. On occasion, country, rock and top 40 are played in accordance with the selection of music they have, but as the customer dynamic changes throughout the evening Fridays and Saturdays the DJs do their best to match the music with the mood of the crowd.

Recently the club expanded its variety by utilizing the ballroom to minimize overcrowding in the enlisted lounge and offer alternative music resulting from increased patronage experienced on weekends. Fridays and Saturdays, the ballroom is now opened for the R&B and associated music. At this time the enlisted lounge will play alternative music genres. We have also added two new DJs who are striving to meet our customers' choices of entertainment.

We welcome your further comments and appreciate your expression of the club as "The Safe Place to Go." We will continue to do our best to keep the title of "The BEST Place to Go"

PHAs, early detection keep
Incirlik Airmen ...

Dancing into healthy future

By Col. Kimberly Cox
39th Medical Group commander

As an Air Force healthcare leader with a bit of experience, meaning I'm old or "age-challenged," I now have family and friends who are developing illnesses and cancers. Most of the cases were detected early, which is good news, but some were not. That's troubling news.

Why didn't they get preventive care sooner? Maybe they complained about it like some people complain about Preventive Health Assessments. Well you should bang down our door every year to have your PHA, which is designed to detect problems early. For all the obvious reasons, it is not pleasant to hear you have cancer or a chronic disease.

When we are young and healthy, we feel and behave like super heroes. "Nothing will harm us." We party all night, soaring from bar to club with the night as cover, you know like Batman. We think we have a force field to shield off the sun's rays. Some of us think we can fly through the air like Superman when we abuse substances. But the only super power we really have is the ability to minimize risk and prolong healthy life.

If we take care of our bodies while we are young, we increase our chances of surviving not only cancers, but the journey of life. Preventive healthcare at Incirlik includes using medical examinations and screenings, immunizations, counseling services in the Life Skills Clinic, and fitness improvement services at the Health and Wellness Center. In addition, maintaining comprehensive personal records of health experiences permits medical professionals to reveal risk factors and at-risk behaviors during your PHA, which are integral in designing a personal healthcare plan and keeping you healthy.

"Got Preventive Healthcare?" It makes strong bodies, families and nations. It saves more than money ... it saves lives so we can dance, dance, dance. And the next time you need a great dancing tune try "I hope You Dance" by LeeAnn Womack and remember my tips when you're listening to the words:

"I hope you never lose your sense of wonder" – know your body intimately well and have anything new or different checked.

"You get your fill to eat but always keep



Col. Kimberly Cox

that hunger" – eat to live don't live to eat.

"May you never take one single breath for granted" – don't smoke.

"God forbid love ever leave you empty-handed" – life skills counselors are here to help.

"I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean" – know environmental threats to your health.

"Whenever one door closes, I hope one more opens" – we have doors at the life skills clinic that are always open, you have choices.

"Promise me that you will give faith a fighting chance" – no matter what your religious preference or non-preference, believe in something that is larger than yourself; remarkable things happen with your health when you have faith.

"And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance" – I truly hope you dance – figuratively with the men and women at the 39th Medical Group who will ensure you are combat fit, and fit for life with your family.

So when you're age-challenged and learn that you never had super hero powers, there will be fewer of your family and friends who are told that you have cancer or chronic illness. More of us will survive due to early detection and treatment. So we will not have to sit it out, we can all dance.

YOUR TURN

How do you keep
your home and family
safe from fires?

"My children are a little older so we try to keep the matches away from them."

—
Lorray Harper,
Incirlik family member



"I use smoke detectors in my home and check them regularly."

— **Senior Airman T.J. Bolen, 385th Air Expeditionary Group**



"I keep the house free of debris. We also keep candles away from the children and we don't keep lighters in the house."

— **April Nenortas, Incirlik family member**



"I always make sure the burners on the stove are off when I'm done cooking. When I am cooking I don't leave it unattended; I'm always there."

— **Tech. Sgt. Sonia Lopez, 39th Communications Squadron**



To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 6-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

HAWC helps people get, stay healthy NEWS

By Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

For many Air Force members an appointment at the Health and Wellness Center often takes on a negative connotation, but HAWC officials would like to remind people that they offer much more than mandatory fitness programs.

“When people think of the HAWC they think of fitness improvement,” said Robert Pagenkopf, fitness program manager. “All of our programs are offered to all, not just those who’ve failed a PT test.”

Incirlik members can learn ways to control cholesterol, eat healthier, quit smoking and even have an exercise routine personalized to meet individual goals and needs – all at the HAWC. One program offered is pre- and post-natal fitness classes tailored to meet the specialized needs of women before and after they give birth.

“It’s important for pregnant women to know their limitations,” said Mr. Pagenkopf. “Exercising can help to ease delivery, shorten recovery time and help control excess weight gain during pregnancy.”

The class meets the third Friday of every month for an hour and a half and is open to active-duty and family members, and Department of Defense civilians. Active-duty members taking part in the class receive personalized pre- and post-natal exercise programs.

“We offer recommendations for each trimester and what they should look for,” he said. “We cover the physiological changes to their bodies and how that affects the cardiovascular system and muscular strength.”



Photo by Senior Airman Larry Reid Jr.

Capt. Romica Caceres, 39th Medical Group Health and Wellness Center health promotion manager, prepares for a cardio workout on the treadmill.

In addition to the classes at the HAWC, the facility is open from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to Incirlik members looking for an alternate location to work out.

“We now open at 6 a.m. to accommodate more shift workers,” Mr. Pagenkopf said.

The center offers fitness balls, exercise bands, tread mills, elliptical trainers, bikes,

free weights and strength training machines in a less daunting setting.

“Using weights and getting back into an exercise routine can be intimidating,” said Mr. Pagenkopf. “Here you have more privacy than in the fitness center.”

For more information on the HAWC and the programs they offer, call 6-4292.

Fitness center offers patrons improved massage facilities

By 1st Lt. S.J.B. Bryant
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Perform an Internet search for massage therapy books and on one search engine alone 537,000 sites might pop up. Yes, massage therapy has come a long way since the Egyptians created reflexology.

People don’t need to travel back in time to the tombs of the Egyptian physicians or to China where many think massage originated. There is a venue on Incirlik Air Base.

In fact, the base fitness center has offered massage therapy to its patrons for more than five years. And now, the service is improved.

“We have just renovated the message room,” said Izak Mizrahi, message therapist at the fitness center for two years. “It is nicer and more relaxing for our customers.”

Mr. Mizrahi, who has been a message therapist for seven years

and earned his certification from Adana University, said the previous conditions of the room were alright but the improvements are much more conducive to relaxation. The renovated room offers privacy walls instead of partitions and a lowered ceiling with adjustable lighting rather than the high, duct-lined ceilings offered before.

“We also painted it a calming color and added other special features,” said Mr. Mizrahi of the new environment he and the other therapist, Ayten Hazar, created.

“We have always had a high demand for the services,” said Richard Gooley, sports and fitness center director. “We recognize the needs and wants of our customers and want to ensure they are well taken care of on various levels of health and fitness to include massage therapy.”

The therapists currently take appointments Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. To make an appointment call the fitness center at 6-6086 or sign up at the customer service desk.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Established to raise awareness, reduce numbers of those abused

By Senior Airman
Brandy Dupper-Macy
355th Wing Public Affairs

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women between the ages of 15 and 44 in the United States — more than car accidents, muggings and rapes combined.

It is also estimated that a woman is battered every 15 seconds in the United States, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

With such a high number, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, observed in October, was established to raise awareness and reduce the numbers of those abused.

“Its purpose is to make people aware of the nature, extent and consequences of domestic violence,” said Marley Smith, 355th Medical Operations Squadron’s family advocacy outreach manager. “Domestic violence is a major social problem that affects all segments of our society. Three to 4 million women are battered each year by intimate partners. It’s the most common reason women go to emergency rooms, and women have a 25 to 33 percent chance of being battered in their lifetimes and a 25 percent chance of being sexually assaulted in their lifetimes. Five to 10 percent of reports involve men being battered by women. So, it’s important that we be proactive in preventing domestic violence and helping victims.”

Domestic violence is an offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice and state law that involves the use, attempted use or threatened use of force or violence against a person of the opposite sex, or a violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person of the opposite sex who is:

- ♦ A current or former spouse.
- ♦ A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common.
- ♦ A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

There are four types of domestic abuse:

- ♦ **Spouse physical abuse:** Includes but is not limited to scratching, pushing, shoving,

throwing, grabbing, biting, choking, shaking, slapping, hitting, restraining, use of weapons/objects, etc.

- ♦ **Spouse sexual abuse:** The use of physical force to compel the spouse to engage in a sexual act against his or her will, whether or not the act is completed.

- ♦ **Spouse neglect:** Deprivation, more than inconsequential physical injury, or reasonable potential for more than inconsequential injury resulting from capable spouse’s acts or omissions toward a spouse who is incapable of self care due to substantial limitations in physical, psychological, intellectual or cultural capacities.

- ♦ **Spouse emotional abuse:** Berating, disparaging, degrading, humiliating, interrogating, restricting ability to come and go freely, threatening, stalking, etc.

Some people are afraid to tell someone they are being abused, but Airmen and family friends can help by watching for signs of abuse.

“All active-duty and civilian employees on a military installation are mandatory reporters,” Mr. Smith said. “That means that if they know or suspect that spouse or child maltreatment has occurred, they must report it to the family advocacy officer or security forces. If the abuse is happening now, they should call 911 or security forces. The only exceptions to the mandatory reporting requirement are the clergy-penitent and lawyer-client relationship.”

“Patients come to family advocacy in a variety of ways,” said Michelle McLoughlin, 355th MDOS family advocacy treatment manager. Some are referred by previous patients, some are self referred, others are referred by their squadron, and some by other medical providers and Child Protective Services.”

“Right now we intervene in domestic violence with married couples only, but, in the near future, we will include other groups as well,” Mr. Marley added.

To report domestic abuse, people should contact the family advocacy office during normal duty hours. After duty hours, people should call 911 or the law enforcement desk at 6-3200.

IN THE NEWS

Power outage

A base wide power outage is scheduled from 4 a.m. to noon Oct. 23, to install high voltage switches in the main power substation. For questions or special needs for backup power, call John Bufford, or Joe Smalls at 6-6846. For more information, call Mehmet Arslan at 6-8020 or 6-6570.

Special duty briefing team

The Air Education Training Command Special Duty Briefing Team will brief all aspects of special duty opportunities 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Nov. 3 in the Consolidated Club. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Airmen 1st class with at least 24 months time in service through master sergeants with less than 17 years total active federal military service are invited to attend the briefing. They are also eligible to apply for these special duty assignments. Those who wish to apply can have the process shortened if they bring their applications with them to the briefing. For a copy of the application, call Master Sgt. Roberta Williams, 39th Air Base Wing career adviser, at 6-1019.

Wing Holiday Gala

The Wing Holiday Gala is 6 to 9 p.m. Dec. 2 at the club. The dress is smart casual. For more information, call 1st Lt. Aisha DaCosta-Paul at 6-3172 or Master Sgt. Cynthia Pierpoint at 6-8137.

Perimeter Road off-limits

Host nation agreements restrict the road running along the perimeter fence to use by Turkish Air Force personnel. Runners along this road generate a security response by Turkish and American Air Force. Runners should stay off this road. For more information on authorized running routes, call the fitness center at 6-6086.

TRICARE

When people PCS, they remain in TRICARE Prime for a max of 60 days from their departure date to their next assignment so their coverage is uninterrupted. People should stop by the TRICARE office before they move. For more information, call the TRICARE office at 6-6628.

Some people are one or the other, but he is both ...

Businessman and Airman

By Capt. Denise Burnham
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Crawford Moore is a man with two faces. One is that of a vice president of a successful department store chain and the other is of an officer in the Air Force Reserves.

Right now, more than 5,000 miles away from his Cheraw, S.C., home where he is a fourth-generation business owner, Mr. Moore, also known as Lt. Col. Crawford Moore, 916th Operations Support Flight commander, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., is here serving on a deployment.

He is deployed as part of the 385th Air Expeditionary Group on a three-week rotation through Incirlik. Like many reservists he hangs up his coat and tie to don his military uniform for duty. However, unlike many reservists, he is a top vice president of a booming department store.

Moore's Department Store is a family-run business with more than 80 stores located in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama. The 1,700 employees have his attention most of the time, but the Air Force also has his attention.

"My family is very supportive about my Reserve duty and my extended, business family is supportive about what I do too," he said. "The other side of that is the Reserve unit is very supportive of me not being there as much. For 11 years they have been nothing but good to me."

While he's here he is responsible for planning a myriad of KC-135 missions to refuel aircraft in the Incirlik area of responsibility.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Dawn Duman

Lt. Col. Crawford Moore, 385th Air Expeditionary Group, helps keep the Incirlik KC-135 mission running smoothly by scheduling missions in the area of responsibility.

While he is at home his job is just as important, and many lives are affected by the decisions he makes each day, just like in the Air Force.

When Colonel Moore heads out to fill his military obligations his civilian "wingman" takes over at Moore's Department Store and makes sure all runs smoothly in his division during his absence.

"Being so well-connected today with phones and the e-mail it makes it a lot easier to be away (from work)," he said.

Colonel Moore credits the Air Force with the people management skills he uses to run the company back home with his family.

"The military absolutely taught me people management ... If you can carry the structure of the military to the outside it helps with all your communication in dealing with the people who work for you," he said.

When thinking about leaving the family business to pursue his Air Force dream, Colonel Moore said he knew the business would always be there after graduating from the Citadel in 1983 and trying something new in the Air Force.

He shares some advice for others in his shoes with Reserve, Air National Guard, civilian, community and family commitments.

"There are times when you have to do things you do not want to do," he said. "I've missed a lot of birthdays, anniversaries and holidays here and there, but with the Reserves it's a give and take. If there are times when I can't fulfill an obligation with the Reserves they understand because of times in the past when I have leaned forward to do what they've asked. It's very much a balancing act."

He knows one thing is certain, whether civilian or military, staying focused on the end goal is what it's all about.

"We really focus on the mission (of Moore's), and all of us in the family understand that — we have to get along well to make decisions," he said. "We do the same thing in the Reserves to get the mission done at the end of the day."

Colonel Moore returned to civilian life once more Oct. 4, but his experiences as a Reservist and as a businessman help him no matter what face he wears.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Buytas

A KC-135 Stratotanker refuels an F-16 Fighting Falcon. The KC-135 Stratotanker's principal mission is air refueling. This ability enhances the Air Force's capability to accomplish its primary missions of global reach and global power. Colonel Moore schedules KC-135 missions in the area of responsibility.

Bringing them in and sending them out ...

Transient Alert takes Incirlik mission worldwide

By Staff Sgt. Shanda De Anda
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Transient alert technicians are ready for the planned and unplanned as they await the arrival of their United Kingdom Royal Air Force C-17 on final approach.

The Prior Parking Request schedule indicates the Royal Air Force C-17 is in need of basic transient alert services, including fuel, but the lessons of experience have taught the team to expect the unexpected.

"The mission of the transient alert flight here is to provide top-notch follow-me, parking, service and launch support for aircraft transiting through Incirlik as well as the red carpet reception for distinguished visitors of all sorts," said Master Sgt. Dan Tackleson II, 39th Maintenance Squadron Transient Alert Flight chief.

However, this 13-person team is also trained and ready to provide response for a myriad of situations including crash-recovery, in-flight emergencies, environmental protection and aircraft lift services whenever, wherever. Although transient alert here primarily focuses their support on C-21s, C-12s and C-17s (the 728th Air Mobility Squadron, Air Mobility Command and deployed KC-135 aircraft maintenance units provide service for aircraft in direct support of their mission) TA is available and trained to support all Incirlik aircraft.

To stay true to their motto, 'whenever, wherever,' the flight is manned in a nontraditional fashion to do what it takes to fulfill their mission every day. Unlike most career fields in the Air Force, transient alert is a flight comprised of Airmen who are not career transient alert technicians. Instead it is made up of crew chiefs of various airframes.

"Our team of people is comprised of crew chiefs from all over the Air Force who have extensive knowledge on aircraft like A-10s, C-130s, KC-135s, predators, F-16s and F-15s," said Staff Sgt. Jimmy Ardis, 39th MXS transient alert and crash recovery technician. "Most people who come here (as transient alert techs) are at least a five level and we have to be able to handle some of the same tasks like marshaling aircraft, but as transient alert we get a chance to see and execute the logistical parts of what we do as crew chiefs."

Moving into a transient alert position builds on the tools and skills crew chiefs have already mastered. The combined experience, expertise and knowledge of their particular airframe translate into the precision, expedient response the



Photo by Tech. Sgt. William Gomez

Senior Airman David Carpenter, 39th Maintenance Squadron, helps with the recovery of a United Kingdom Royal Air Force C-17 that landed here.

team can supply during in-flight emergencies or other challenges that may arise on the flightline.

"The biggest difference between what we did in our previous occupations as crew chiefs is that our work back then was more hands-on," said Senior Airman Sean Rafferty, transient alert and crash recovery technician with five and a half years of experience as an F-16 crew chief. "We did more in-depth maintenance as fighter crew chiefs and what we did or didn't do determined if that airplane was able to get off the ground and put bombs and missiles on target. Here we still have an impact on the aircraft's mission, just in a different way."

As transient alert the level of maintenance performed is minimal, but the weight of the support they provide is profound. TA's support to transiting aircraft makes it a critical link in the chain that determines mission success. Those mission successes have worldwide implications.

"This job gives us (crew chiefs) the opportunity to train on different airframes in the Air Force; typically as a crew chief you are limited to your airframe and wouldn't get the chance to experience

anyone else's," said Sergeant Ardis, an A-10 crew chief with five years of experience.

"Incirlik also provides an opportunity to affect missions worldwide as we support transiting downrange aircraft supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and throughout Southwest Asia."

TA services also extend into international territory as they routinely support aircraft from other countries, including Australia, the United Kingdom and Singapore.

"We provide a great first impression of Incirlik for visiting dignitaries as well as aircrews when they arrive," said Sergeant Tackleson, a KC-135R crew chief with 19 years of experience. "What we do ensures smooth mission accomplishment for the aircraft we service and that is perhaps the most rewarding part of our job."

The RAF C-17 lands, TA services it and, within hours, it's on its way downrange in support of the global war on terrorism. Another success for the 39th Air Base Wing as it continues to provide full-spectrum, world-class forward operating base support to expeditionary forces, and a success for transient alert as the team prepares for their next mission 'wherever, whenever.'

Fire department: Protecting Incirlik

By Capt. Denise Burnham
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

There are more than 1.5 million fires each year according to National Fire Prevention Association. The top causes for home fires are cooking, candles and carelessness.

The Incirlik fire department is on standby 24-hours a day 365 days a year to ensure all is safe and sound here. And if it's not, the firemen can respond at a moment's notice ... they are prepared to save lives if and when that call comes.

"We provide fire protection for Incirlik and the surrounding community," said Mr. Kenneth Williams, Vinnell, Brown and Root deputy and acting fire chief.

The fire department is a combined effort of Turkish and American people working together to meet one mission — keeping Incirlik safe. The fire department is contracted by VBR. The unit currently consists of seven Americans who serve as chief, deputies and assistant chiefs and 131 Turkish national firefighters.

For Turkish employees, being accepted into the fire department is a highly selective process according to Ahmet Kahraman, VBR crew chief and rescue truck fire fighter since 1997. Applicants must pass a spoken and written English language examination. Once they pass the exam they must pass a grueling physical agility test.

Physical fitness is not over once the hopefuls are selected as a firefighter; they must participate in a physical fitness program that rivals Air Force-level standards. The firemen participate in cardiovascular exercise, jogging, weights, aerobics, soccer and they must be able to lift approximately 150 pounds.

"Our guys have to be physically fit in order to perform their jobs, so there is a requirement for us to participate in an exercise program," said Mr. Williams. "We are the first fire department in U.S. Air Forces in Europe to enroll into the FitLinx program."

In addition to the physical training, once they are notified of job selection they begin three months of training in firefighter school located on base.

They are trained in both Turkish and English and courses run the gamut of extinguishing small fires to the more difficult subjects like working with hazardous materials and explosives.

The fire department joins an elite group of "first responders" when something big goes down on base.

"When we get a 911 call we work together — it's the fire department, security forces and the hospital answering each one of those calls," said Mr. Williams.

The team does not only respond to on-base emergencies. They have a mutual aid agreement with the city of Adana and can respond off-base if the need is determined.

"Earlier this year, Talay Tours in the Alley caught fire at 3 a.m. and we responded," said Mr. Kahraman. "When we received the initial report we thought it was the gun shop near Talay that caught on fire."

The Incirlik fire department was able to respond, but responding is only one part of the fire department's mission. The fire department is broken down into three main disciplines: Operations, fire prevention and training.

Operations cover the day-to day fire department responsibilities which covers responding to 911 calls and in-flight emergencies to maintaining the fire trucks.



Photo by Airman Renee Saylock

Ekran Beser, stows a fire hose in a fire truck after a training exercise. Initial training for Incirlik firefighters takes about three months.

Fire prevention is responsible for training everyone on base to use fire extinguishers and for giving the housing briefing to all new occupants upon arrival.

Education is key to making fire prevention work according to Mr. Williams. The department briefs more than 50 newcomers a week on the common and historical causes of fires on Incirlik. They also branch out to help educate more of the community.

One of the big tools is Fire Prevention Week Oct. 9 through today with a series of displays and events at the BX, school and a youth march to educate people about fires. And to help teach people about fire safety and stress is this year's National Fire Protection Association theme, "Use Candles with Care."

"We show them the proper way of putting out a fire by using the extinguisher and how to prevent fires, most that start on base are from unattended cooking," said Mr. Williams. "We stress that to the housing occupants. They should never leave greasy cookware unattended to go watch television or answer the phone."

The training section is responsible for training all fire department new hires. Fire training is done in two languages and lasts three months. They are responsible for keeping up with the firefighters' credentials to make sure they are up-to-date.

"Before you become shift-qualified you have to learn what a fire is, how to extinguish it and so forth," said Mr. Kahraman. "It's like going to university, every day learning more and more."

Once the technicians pass through the general firefighter course, they are eligible for advanced training and are offered additional certifications and training programs in hazardous materials, emergency medical technician and explosive and potentially deadly substances. The firefighters must meet stringent International Fire Science Accreditation Congress standards, which is the same standard for all Department of Defense firefighters.

Whether they are teaching a class or responding to a 911 call in base housing the fire department is well trained and well equipped to meet the mission of the base and the city head-on.



Ask MEHMET

By Mehmet Birbiri, Host Nation Adviser

Ramazan and Ramadan

Question: Mehmet, the Moslem world has started to observe the holy month of Ramadan. But you call the month 'Ramazan.' What is the difference?

Response: There is no difference between Ramadan and Ramazan at all. Ramazan is the Turkish version of Ramadan which is originally an Arabic word. Some words of Islamic culture might differ slightly from one language to another.

Ramazan is also a very popular name for Turkish men. Baby boys born in the month of Ramazan are usually named Ramazan.

With the beginning of the holy month of Ramazan, there are some changes in the daily lifestyle throughout the country. It is observing the cultural traditions more than a change in the daily lifestyle.

One of the most popular traditions is the Ramazan Drummers. Drummers had been a part of our traditional culture year round, but are only seen now during the month of Ramazan, the fasting month for Moslems. The drummer is a human alarm clock and is still important in Ramazan.

The drummer starts to stroll and beats his drum in the streets around 3 a.m. That begins the *sahur*, the morning meal before sunrise, awakening the believers so they may rise and eat before fasting time at dawn. Some drummers also sing while beating their drums. The custom allows the cook of the household, usually the mother, to wake up first, prepare the meal and then wake the rest of her family.

In cities, every district has a drummer. At the end of the fasting month, on the first day of the Sugar Festival, the drummers do their drumming during the day, knocking on every door in their district.

That's when the believers tip the drummers for the service they have provided during the fasting month. There are four Ramazan drummers at Incirlik Township, one drummer for each district, and it has been reported that there are about 200 drummers in Adana and more than 1,000 in Istanbul.



File photo

Every evening, at fast breaking time during Ramazan, the minarets of the Sabanci Mosque in Adana are lit. They remain lit until morning, when the fast starts again.

There is a big rivalry among the drummers. They try to sing the best songs and wake the people at the most appropriate time. In order to be able to do that, some drummers are motorized now. They work as a two-men team riding on a motorcycle. While one of them drives the motorcycle, the other one rides in the back seat beating his drum. That way, they can cover lots of space in a short amount of time.

In the evenings, a cannon is fired in most of the cities and towns to let those fasting know that it is time to break the fast.

Another way of knowing the fasting time is over is by looking at the minarets, or the towers of the mosques. In the evening, minarets are illuminated at the fast-breaking time and kept lit until fasting time starts.

The big Sabanci Mosque in Adana will be beautifully and fully illuminated every evening during the month of Ramazan and Sugar Festival, until Nov. 5. It is a good opportunity to take the picture of the mosque while illuminated.

Here is one of the songs of the drummers:
I got out into the street with the name of God

*Giving greetings to the right and the left
Oh my stately gentle folk
Blessed times are upon us.
Your drummer has come to the door*

*He gives greeting to everyone
Don't be upset my dears
He's come to collect his tip.
This month is called Sultan month
Sweet with cream and honey is eaten.
It's been a custom for all time
That a tip is given to the drummer.*

In Turkish

davul - drum
(dah - wool)

davulcu - drummer
(dah - wool - ju)

saat - watch, clock
(sah - aht)

zaman - time
(zah - mahn)

sabah - morning
(sah - bahn)

Do you have a question about something Turkish? Ask Mehmet. To submit a question, call 6-6060 or e-mail mehmehmet.birbiri@incirlik.af.mil.

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE

Solo Flight

The family support center sponsors Solo Flight for unaccompanied and single parents. It is a chance to share experiences and advice on single parenting from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Piper Lounge in the club. For more information, call the FSC at 6-6755.

Bingo Night

The Incirlik Combined Spouses Club is hosting a Turkish Treasures Bingo Night 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the club. Events planned for the evening include dinner, a speaker and bingo. Prizes include jewelry, scarves, copper and iron items, blankets, decorative items, towels, robes and much more. For more information, call Amy Catilina at 6-5432.

Fall festival

The Country Plains Riding Club is having a fall festival from 1 to 5 p.m. Oct. 22. Cost is \$10 per child. Pony rides, games and a pumpkin contest are planned. For more information, call Angela Hill at 6-2153.

Pool play group

A playgroup for children from 6 months to 4 years-old and their parents is 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through the end of October in the baby pool. For more information, call the family support center at 6-6755.

Auto Skills

The auto skills center is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The center is closed Sundays, Mondays and Turkish Holidays. For more information, call 6-6655.

Found items

The 39th Medical Group Resource Management Office has items left by patients. To claim an item, go to the RMO window, located by the TRICARE Office, with a description of the item. Items are available for pick up from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until Nov. 1. For more information, call 6-2159 or 6-2059.

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK



Tech. Sgt. Natasha Campbell

39th Operations Squadron
watch supervisor

Time in service: 14 years seven months

Hometown: Kenosha, Wis.

Time on station: Eight months

Hobbies: Playing with my children and cooking

Why did you join the Air Force?

I wanted to be able to attend college but, being raised by a single parent, I didn't think we could afford it. I didn't want to put any pressure on my mom. I also liked what the military had to offer as far as school, travel

and discipline. I have no regrets.

What do you like the most about Incirlik?

I love the pace here. I have a large family and found life is more manageable here for me and my children. Being here in Turkey, I have more time to dedicate individually to my kids and husband.

How do you contribute to the mission?

I make sure the pilots get the best service available. I ensure their safety and try to avoid any delays to their mission.

What is your favorite motto and why?

"Actions speak louder than words." I like this particular motto because it usually lights a fire where necessary and when needed.

What Air Force core value best describes you and why?

At this point in my career, I try to put an emphasis on all of the Air Force core values. I think they all describe what I strive for every day.

Supervisor's quote:

"Natasha is an extremely professional NCO. She ensures the safe and expeditious movement of air traffic during her watch," said Senior Master Sgt. Bernard Sims, 39th Operations Squadron chief controller. "She also dedicates numerous hours reviewing and updating training records. Her commitment and dedication make her an invaluable asset to our squadron."

Classifieds

For sale: Panasonic DVD Camcorder, model VDR-M30PP. In excellent condition with all wires, cables, instruction manuals, memory card and carrying case. \$150 OBO. For more information, call Eric at 6-5124.

For sale: Chest of drawers and nightstand, \$75; glass top table and chairs, \$30; bakers rack, \$20; recliner, \$40; end table, \$10; L-shaped desk, \$30. For more information, call Erica at 6-5144.

For sale: Five heavy traction tires with rims 215-80 R15. \$600 or best offer. A JVC 100w stereo system, 3 disc changer, has all audio and video connections. Some scratches but otherwise brand new. \$150 OBO. For more information, call Tylor at 6-5563.

For sale: Sony digital camera, model number DSC-T1, 5 megapixels. 128MB memory card, all wires and cables, carrying case, dual voltage power supply and original instruction manual and software included with cam-

era. Camera is in excellent condition. Asking \$120, OBO. For more information, call Eric at 6-5124.

Instructors needed: The community center is looking for instructors for the following classes: conversational English, swing dancing, instruments, international cooking and dog obedience. For more information, call 6-6966 or 6-1032.

Job available: Part-time opening at clinic for medical records coordinator. Duties include retrieving, copying, scanning and tracking medical records. Must have a high school degree or GED, experience as a medical records technician or in a medical clinic, organizational skills, attention to detail and ability to multitask. For more information, call Susan Bicknell at 6-8829.

Free to a good home: A 2-year-old Norwegian Elkhound that is housebroken, neutered and has all current shots. He is extremely friendly but still young. Ideal home would have children or a full-time occupant as he loves company and exercise. For more information, call Danielle Reed at 6-8447.

COMBAT, SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAM

Project Wizard

There are volunteer opportunities at the library. People can read stories to children or help the staff with the book, movie and music collections. For more information, call 6-6759.

Combat Education

The Spouse's Tuition Assistance Program covers up to \$300 of college tuition. Applications, due today, are available at the education center. For more information, call Elizabeth Ober at 6-3211.

Combat Fitness

There is a **sit-up and push-up contest** 9 a.m. Saturday at the fitness center. The winner receives a free T-shirt. The fitness center offers **Pilates classes** at 4:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. For more information, call 6-6086.

Project CHEER

Project CHEER starts Nov. 1. The Incirlik goal is to conduct 20 wing-wide events and 50 events between squadrons per month. For information on planned events or to volunteer, call the community center at 6-6966.

Project SMART

Since the Air Force physical training uniform has a significant amount of reflective material, U.S. Air Forces in Europe found it meets the intent of reflective belts. People working out in civilian attire should wear a reflective belt during hours of darkness. For more information, call the safety office at 6-SAFE.

Click it or Ticket

The "Click it or Ticket" campaign is a law enforcement initiative to change unsafe behavior through education. People should make it a habit to buckle up every time they get in a vehicle and make a positive change in their safety on the road. For more information, call the law enforcement desk at 6-3200 or the safety office at 6-SAFE



Photo by Tech. Sgt. William Gomez

How it's done

Airman 1st Class William Womack, 39th Communications Squadron postal clerk, shows people how to play the inflatable bungee run game. Airman Womack volunteered at the booth during Saturday's Oktoberfest at Arkadas Park.



AT THE OASIS

Today

7 p.m. – Valiant (G) (1st run) – Animated. Starring voices of Ewan McGregor, John Cleese and Tim Curry. (109 minutes)

9:15 p.m. – Hustle and Flow (R) – Starring Terrence Dashon Howard and DJ Qualls. (114 minutes)

Saturday

5 p.m. – Valiant (G) (1st run) – Animated. Starring voices of Ewan McGregor, John Cleese and Tim Curry. (109 minutes)

7:30 p.m. – Must Love Dogs (PG-13) – Starring Diane Lane and John Cusack. (98 minutes)

Sunday

7 p.m. – The Devil's Reject (R) – Starring Sid Haig and Bill Moseley. (101 minutes)

Thursday

7 p.m. – Hustle and Flow (R) – Starring Terrence Dashon Howard and DJ Qualls. (114 minutes)

AT THE M1

The Transporter 2 (PG-13) – Starring Jason Statham and Alessandro Gassmann at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. (90 minutes)

Lord of War (R) – Starring Nicholas Cage and Jared Leto at 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m., and 9:15 p.m. (122 minutes)

The 40 Year Old Virgin (R) – Starring Steve Carell and Catherine Keener at 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:45 p.m., and 9:15 p.m. (116 minutes)

The Wedding Crashers (R) – Starring Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 6:45 p.m., and 9:15 p.m. (119 minutes)

Cinderella Man (PG-13) – Starring Russel Crowe and Renee Zellweger at 3:30 p.m., and 9:30 p.m. (144 minutes)

Four Brothers (R) – Starring Mark Wahlberg and Tyrese Gibson at 11 a.m., and 1:15 p.m. (111 minutes)

Movie listings are subject to changes. On-base listings are courtesy of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Web site at <http://www.aafes.com/ems/euro/incirlik.htm>; M-1 listings are courtesy of Tepe Cinemaxx. For more Oasis information and updates, call the movie recording at 6-6986 or the theater office at 6-9140.